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CIA--FRIEND OR FOE? (2300 WORDS)

EDITOR'S NOTE--THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY IS VAST, AND POWERT L, AND SILENT. BUT IS IT GOOD OR BAD? DOES IT MAKE FOREIGN POLICY WHEN IT SHOULDN'T? BOTH CRITICS AND FRIENDS ARE LOUD IN THEIR ANSWERS, BUT THEY ACREE ON ONE THING-IN THIS DAY OF "BACK ALLEY WARS," THE CIA HAD BETTER BE GOOD.

BY SID MOODY

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(ADVANCE) THE SHADOWY BUSINESS OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, BY ITO MATURE, DEMANDS SECRECY. BUT IN A FINGER-POINTING, PROBE-CONSCIOUS DEMCCRACY THERE IS CONSTANT PRESSURE TO LIFT THE LID AND HAVE A LOOK.

SCARCELY A DAY-OR A COUP-COES BY THAT SOMEONE, SCMEWHERE DOES NOT ACCUSE THE CIA OF MURDER OR KIDNAPING, OF BOMBING OR BLACKMAIL, OF BRIBERY OR UNDERNIE INCOR SMEAKING SPIES INTO CUBA OR SNEAKING THEM OUT, OR MASTERMINDING THIS IN TANZANIA OR BUNGLING THAT IN SINGAPORE-ALL THE WHILE STREWING AMERICAN DOLLARS HITTER AND YON.

SINCE IT IS INHERENT IN AN INTELLIGENCE APPARATUS NOT TO CONFIRM OR DENY ANYTHING, THE CLAIMS, RUMORS AND CHARGES LEAVE THE PUBLIC CONFUSED AS TO WHETHER THE AGENCY IS EXCEEDINGLY GOOD-OR BAD.

THE FACT THAT IT CANNOT ANSWER FOR ITSELF MAKES THE CIA FAIR GAME FOR THE WILDEST OF CHARGES AND ONLY OCCASIONALLY DOES THIS ICEBERG OF ESPIONAGE SURFACE: SUCH AS THE BERLIN TUNNEL THAT TAPPED THE WIRES OF SOVIET MILITARY HEADQUARTERS, OR THE OVERTHROW OF LEFTIST REGIMES IN GUATEMALA OR IRAN, THE U2 FLIGHTS OVER RUSSIA AND THE BAY OF PIGS INVASION.

WHAT THE CIA DOES CONCERNS NOT ONLY THE KREMLIN. IT ALSO CONCERNS & MUMBER OF CRITICS IN THE UNITED STATES. TO THEM THE CIA HAS WOODWORK TO BE PROFERLY MONITORED BY THE GOVERNMENT IT SERVES, HAS DEALT LOW BLOWS TO CUR WE-FIGHT-FAIR-WHY-DON'T-THE-OTHERS IMAGE.

HAS IT?

THE CIA HAS MANY SPIES, FEW SPOKESMEN. IT DOESN'T TALK. BUT A TYPICAL SAMPLING OF ALLEGATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN BOOKS AND NEWSPAPERS AND WHICH ARE PART OF THE ACCEPTED PICTURE OF THE CIA IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD PROVIDES SUCH AS THE FOLLOWING:

ALLEGATION 1:

-THE SYRIANS TESTIFTED AN AMERICAN EMBASSY OFFICIAL OFFERED THEM \$2 ELLION IF THEY COULD DELIVER A SOVIET NAVAL PAIROL BOAT AND ITS ROCKETS TO CYPRUE. HE ALLEGATION 2:

-THE CIA HAS RIGGED ELECTHONS IN LAOS. AND AN AMERICAN NEWSMAN SAID HE SAW COMMUNIST AND CIA AGENTS LITERALLY BUMPING INTO EACH OTHER WHILE VISITING CONGOLESE PARLIAMENTARIANS TO BUY VOTES DURING A CRUCIAL VOTE OF CONFIDENCE.

**CPYRGHT**